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ADP

DATE: 14 February 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Cartography Division, OBI

SUBJECT : Report of The World Data Bank Committee

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1. The Committee met on 11 February 1966. In addition to the appointed members, [redacted] of this Division, [redacted] of ORD, and [redacted] all from OCS also attended. 25X1A9a

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2. The previous work of the Committee was reviewed and a brief summary of this effort is attached. [redacted] reported on the subsequent feasibility study undertaken by his branch. Current developments in available hardware were discussed. [redacted] briefly spoke on ORD interest in graphical displays. The acquisition of combined light pen--cathode ray tube--camera gear will permit experimentation in rapid map design. 25X1A9a

3. The selection of a base suitable for digitizing was considered next. Criteria for such a base should include an easily convertible projection, availability (Can stable-base positives be readily obtained?), and readability. On this basis, the Mercator map of the world published by the U.S. Navy Oceanographic Office was selected for non-polar coverage. No decision was made on polar maps. Before digitizing, all international boundaries will be checked by the responsible branches and modified if necessary. All coastlines and international boundaries and the drainage system of one country will be digitized. Concurrently, a tape of world capitals and major cities will be prepared from the gazetteer. It is estimated that about 50,000 coordinate points will be needed for the prototype World Data Bank. A vu-graph of the Arabian peninsula was shown to illustrate 220 Dahlgren points vs. the 620 needed to depict the area at 1:11,000,000, exclusive of boundaries and drainage. The 50,000 figure was arrived at by allowing for the gross detail at higher latitudes in this projection as well as boundaries and some drainage.

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Attachment

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